

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 KINGST 02217 051722Z

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 SS-15

NSC-05 PM-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 EUR-12 AF-10 /069 W

-----051727Z 019892 /53

O 051640Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5129

INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS KINGSTON 2217

FOR: USIA FOR IOP/M

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, JM, US, CU

SUBJECT: EDITORIAL COMMENT ON THE JUXTAPOSITION OF U.S. AND
CUBAN VISITS TO JAMAICA

1. BOTH OF JAMAICA'S MORNING PAPERS THIS MORNING CARRIED
EDITORIAL SPECULATION ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE COINCIDENCE OF
VISITS TO JAMAICA BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECY LUERS AND THE VICE
PRESIDENT OF CUBA.

2. THE DAILY NEWS, UNDER THE HEADLINE "ALL IN THE MORNING", OPENED
ITS EDITORIAL WITH THE FOLLOWING THREE PARAGRAPHS, WHICH ARE QUOTED
VERBATIM:

QUOTE: "EVENTS WHICH TOOK PLACE AT JAMAICA HOUSE ON TUESDAY MORNING
SUMMARIES VERY NEATLY WHAT MANY GOVERNMENT MINISTERS HAVE BEEN CON-
FUSED IN PRESENTING TO THE PUBLIC AND THE WORLD IN GENERAL - THAT IS,
THE NATURE OF THE JAMAICA GOVERNMENT'S FOREIGN POLICY.

"INDEED, IT IS FAR FROM COMMONPLACE FOR ANY GOVERNMENT OR GOVERN-
MENT LEADER TO PLAY HOST WITHIN A FEW MINUTES TO A UNITED STATES
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE AND A VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 KINGST 02217 051722Z

OF CUBA.

"WE BELIEVE THAT PERHAPS THE ONLY EVENT WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN MORE
SIGNIFICANT IN EXPLAINING WHAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS REFERRED TO AS THE
"DIVERSIFICATION" OF ITS PATTERN OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, WOULD HAVE
BEEN A MEETING BETWEEN MR. LUERS AND DR. RODRIQUEZ, WITH MR. MANLEY."
UNQUOTE.

3. AFTER NOTING THAT IT HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT NO SUCH MEETING IN FACT TOOK PLACE, THE DAILY NEWS "WONDERED" WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE REACTION HAD DR. RODRIQUEZ COME TO JAMAICA AND SPENT A DAY WITH MR. MANLEY IF THE "U.S. DELEGATION HAD NOT (ALSO) BEEN HERE". WHETHER JAMAICA'S RELATIONS "WITH THAT GROUP OF COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SHUT OUT" WILL CONTINUE TO INCREASE IN THE LIGHT OF MANLEY'S OBSERVATION THAT "OVER 90 PERCENT OF JAMAICA'S TRADE RELATIONS ARE WITH THE WEST", THE EDITORIAL CONCLUDED, "REMAINS TO BE SEEN."

4. IN AN EDITORIAL ENTITLED "THOSE SIGNIFICANT VISITS", THE DAILY GLEANER ALSO SPECULATED ON THE SIGNIFICANCE, IF ANY, OF THEIR COINCIDENCE. THE GLEANER, USING THE "BEST INTERPRETATION" WENT FURTHER THAN THE NEWS AND SPECULATED THAT "...THE VISITS BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THESE TWO NATIONS HITHERTO HOSTILE TO ONE ANOTHER REFLECT THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF MR. MANLEY AND HIS GOVERNMENT IN THE ROLE OF HONEST BROKER BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND HAVANA."

IN AN ASIDE, INDICATING A MISCONCEPTION FREQUENT IN THE JAMAICAN PRESS AND GOVERNMENT CIRCLES AS WELL, THE EDITORIAL COMMENTED ON THE U.S. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE IMF AS FOLLOWS:
"JAMAICA ... HAS ANNOUNCED THAT IT IS SEEKING SOME \$200 MILLION SOME OF WHICH WILL COME FROM THE IMF. IT IS JAMAICA THAT WISHES THE APPROVAL OF IMF TO ENABLE IT TO GET LOANS FROM THE U.S.A. AND OTHER COUNTRIES". QUOTING FROM AN "INTRIGUING PARAGRAPH" IN AN APRIL 23RD ARTICLE IN THE LONDON ECONOMIST WHICH SAID, INTER ALIA, "RICH COUNTRIES...MAY DISCREETLY APPLAUD THE LENIENT TERMS OF RECENT IMF LOANS TO EGYPT, JAMAICA AND ITALY", THE GLEANER SPECULATED THAT "JAMAICA MAY (ALREADY) HAVE RECEIVED THE APPROVAL OF UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 KINGST 02217 051722Z

THE IMF IN DRAWING DOWN LOANS."

5. RETURNING FROM THIS DIVERSION, THE GLEANER EDITORIAL CONCLUDED.

QUOTE: "THE VISIT OF CASTRO'S NO. 2, MAY WELL HAVE BEEN ONE TO RE-ASSERT THE STRENGTH OF JAMAICA-CUBA TIES, AS ALSO FOR DR. RODRIQUEZ TO BRIEF MR. MANLEY ON THE LATEST POSITION IN AFRICA IN VIEW OF MR. MANLEY'S IMPENDING VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE TO DELIVER ONE OF THE STATEMENTS ON THE SPECIAL CONFERENCE ON NAMIBIA. IT WOULD BE SURPRISING IF CASTRO'S MAN DID NOT INDICATE THAT CUBA REMAINED CONVINCED OF JAMAICA'S BONA FIDES IN THE LIGHT OF THE ATTEMPT AT RAPPROCHEMENT WITH THE U.S.A., ESPECIALLY AS CASTRO HIMSELF HAS BEEN COURTING NEW FRIENDSHIP WITH THAT COUNTRY.

"WHAT IS CERTAIN IS THAT JAMAICA IS TRYING TO PUT ITS HOUSE IN ORDER A LA I.M.F., TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO GET LOANS. THE VISITS THIS WEEK ARE ANOTHER PART OF THE HOUSE-REARRANGING ORDER.

6. BOTH PAPERS FOUND A RARE AGREEMENT IN ATTEMPTING TO ADVANCE

THE NOTION OF AN "HONEST BROKER" ROLE VIS A VIS THE US AND CUBA.
REPORTERS FROM BOTH (ALWAYS MORE AGGRESSIVE IN THEIR SPECULATION
THAN IN THEIR REPORTAGE), PERHAPS BY THEIR WITNESS OF THE GAME
OF "MUSICAL DOORS" AT JAMAICA HOUSE ON TUESDAY MORNING AS MR. LUERS
CAME OUT AND MR. RODRIGUEZ WENT IN, PRESSED MISSION HARD IN ATTEMPT
TO FIND ANY CLUE THAT WOULD SUBSTANTIATE A LUERS-RODRIGUEZ MEETING.
THEY GAVE UP MOST RELUCTANTLY ONLY WHEN SPOKESMAN QUOTED FAMOUS
AMERICAN POEM BY OGDEN NASH: "MADAM, OUR JUSTAPOSITION AS WE DINE
RESULTS FROM NO INTRIGUE OF MINE."
DORRANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS COMMENTS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KINGST02217
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770158-0356
Format: TEL
From: KINGSTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770591/aaaadafw.tel
Line Count: 126
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 607e179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2633341
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EDITORIAL COMMENT ON THE JUXTAPOSITION OF U.S. AND CUBAN VISITS TO JAMAICA
TAGS: PFOR, JM, US, CU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/607e179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009